

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

Claim 1

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a 5  
A method for disrupting the normal functioning of an audio-visual display <sup>device</sup> system, comprising:

A) transmitting a series of codes from a remote control unit to <sup>the</sup> an audio-visual display device;

B) recognizing the series of codes within the audio-visual display device;

C) changing the state of operations of the audio-visual display device from normal to disrupted upon recognition of the series of codes; and  
10

a  
D) storing an indication of the state of operations in non-volatile memory within the audio-visual <sup>display device</sup> receiver.

Claim 2

The method according to claim 1 wherein the step of changing the state of operations of the audio-visual display device from normal to disrupted further includes:

5 displaying a solid color visual display.

Claim 3

The method according to claim 1 wherein the step of changing the state of operations of the audio-visual display device from normal to disrupted further includes:

a 5  
a  
setting the contrast and brightness levels of the visual display to <sup>less than optimal settings</sup> minimums.

Claim 4

The method according to claim 1 wherein the step of changing the state of operations of the audio-visual display device from normal to disrupted further includes:

5 causing a character generator of the audio-visual display device to produce a single hue over substantially the entire field of the visual display.

Claim 5

The method according to claim 1 wherein the step of changing the state of operations of the audio-visual display device from normal to disrupted further includes:

a 5 ~~disabling~~ <sup>disrupting</sup> an audio output of the audio-visual display device.

Claim 6

The method according to claim 1 wherein the step of changing the state of operations of the audio-visual display device from normal to disrupted further includes:

a 5 ~~disabling~~ <sup>disrupting</sup> a closed captioning function of the visual display.

Claim 7

The method according to claim 1 wherein the step of changing the state of operations of the audio-visual display device from normal to disrupted further includes:

a 5 changing the state <sup>of operations</sup> from disrupted back to normal upon a second transmission and recognition of the series of codes.

Claim 8

The method according to claim 1 wherein the step of transmitting a series of codes further includes transmitting an entry code to activate a disruption subroutine, followed by an activation sequence of codes to enable the disruption subroutine.

Claim 9

The method according to claim 8 including the further step of transmitting a command code to activate the changing of the state of operations of the audio-visual display device.

Claim 10

Sub #1  
A method for disrupting the normal functioning of an audio-visual display device comprising:

- A) transmitting an entry code from a remote control unit to an audio-visual display device for a first set amount of time;
- B) advancing the audio-visual display device to an activation state upon receipt of the entry code;
- C) transmitting a first activation code from the remote control unit to the audio-visual display device within a second set amount of time from entering the activation state;
- D) advancing the audio-visual display device to a first sequence state;
- E) transmitting a second activation code from the remote control unit to the audio-visual display device within a third set time substantially less than the second set time;

F) advancing the audio-visual device to a second sequence state;

G) transmitting a third activation code from the remote control unit to the audio-visual display device within the third set time;

H) advancing the audio-visual display device to a third sequence state;

I) transmitting a command code after the activation sequence to achieve disruption of normal operations of the audio-visual display device within a fourth set time.

Claim 11

The method of claim 10 further including:

returning to normal audio-visual display device operation if the code transmission sequence is not <sup>received</sup> exact within the set times.

Claim 12

The method of claim 10 further including:

disrupting the visual display of the audio-visual display device.

Claim 13

The method of claim 12 further including:

setting the contrast and brightness levels to minimums.

Claim 14

The method of claim 12 further including:

displaying a solid color visual display.

Claim 15

The method of claim 12 further including:

causing a character generator of the audio-visual display device to produce a single hue over substantially the entire field of the visual display.

Claim 16

The method of claim 10 further including:

*a* ~~disabling~~ <sup>*disrupting*</sup> an audio output of the audio-visual display device.

Claim 17

The method of claim 10 further including:

*a* ~~disabling~~ <sup>*disrupting*</sup> a closed captioning function of the audio-visual display device.

Claim 18

The method of claim 10 further including:

restoring normal operations of the audio-visual display device by transmitting the same code sequence as set forth in claim 10 to the audio-visual display device a second time.